



OPEN AIR DECK FINDS RELIEF FROM THE HEAT

Location

AJ's Seafood & Oyster Bar
Destin, FL

Size

40 x 40 ft.

Color

Sandstone

Dealer

The Recovery Room
Panama City Beach, FL

Completion Date

July 2016

"AJ's customers can now enjoy the cool deck, appreciate the sunlight and see the stars at night."

-Alan Laird, Owner
AJ's Seafood & Oyster Bar



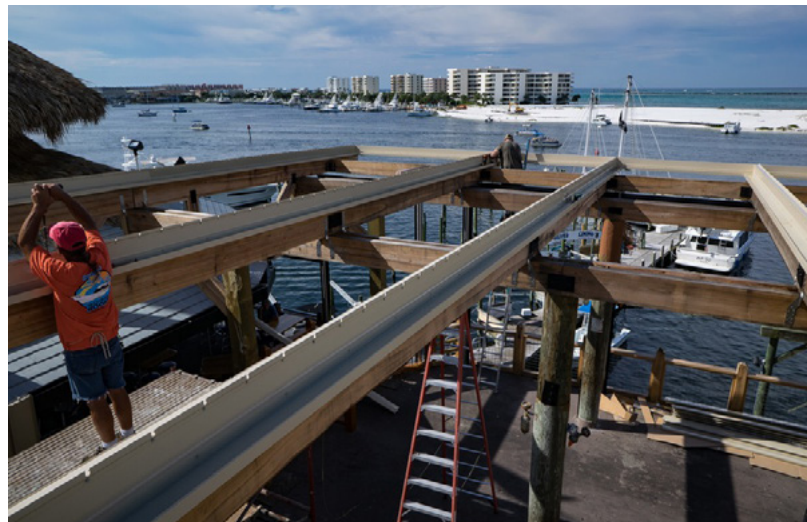
CHALLENGE

Since 1984, AJ's Seafood & Oyster Bar has been serving up fresh, cold Gulf Coast oysters and cool drinks in the Florida Panhandle. One of the most popular events on the open air deck is watching the charter boats roll in with their daily catch.

Damaged by a fire in February 2016, AJ's considered adding a fixed hard roof over their west deck. The restaurant had previously used canvas awnings to shield against sun and rain squalls, but the maintenance was constant. The awnings weren't effective at holding back rain and needed frequent replacement due to strong Gulf of Mexico winds.

After considering different options, AJ's determined that an Equinox® Louvered Roof was the ideal cover for the rebuilt deck. With the flip of a switch, the louvers can be positioned at any point within a full range of motion to provide the exact amount of sun protection and ventilation needed to keep guests comfortable. They knew that closed louvers and the integrated gutter system would protect diners from frequent Florida rain showers.

Then they looked at the thermometer.



'IT'S REALLY BEEN AMAZING TO US.'

The west deck seats 120 people, but relentless heat made it unusable in peak summer months of June, July, and August. "Before installing an Equinox® roof, we never realized how much radiant heat was hitting the deck in the afternoon," says Alan Laird, owner. Now, the Equinox® roof has reduced the temperature on the deck 30 degrees or more. Digital thermometer readings taken underneath the partially-open roof and immediately outside the deck show the dramatic temperature difference. When partially open, louver shape catches the breeze to recirculate it around the deck.

Even with summer temperatures hovering at 95 degrees and above, AJ's has seated patrons on the deck every day since the roof was installed.



ARCHITECT-APPROVED

Jeffrey Prescott, architect, designed the roof's support system, saying, "Even with design elements specific to AJ's existing infrastructure, working with the panel system was easy. The Equinox louver elements are 8 feet on center and simple to work with. I'd highly recommend this to anyone who wants to control sunlight and weather."

Jeffrey also commented on the roof quality. Verified as compliant for use in high wind areas under Miami-Dade hurricane testing protocols, "the Equinox Louvered Roof is the perfect solution for the setting, controlling the intense heat and performing flawlessly during a recent rain squall."

EXPECTATIONS MET AND EXCEEDED

AJ's is enthusiastic about the increased business opportunities their Equinox® provides. In their high-traffic setting, the owner is confident the roof will pay itself off in the summer and again in the fall. Now that rain is not an issue, the roof gives AJ's the flexibility to book parties, creating a relaxed, open area that couldn't be previously used in inclement weather.

AJ's customers can now enjoy the cool deck, appreciate the sunlight and see the stars at night.

Visit www.EquinoxRoof.com/cooldeck



ABOUT EQUINOX®

Equinox® Louvered Roof is the premier supplier of exclusive shade structures for luxury residential and architectural design applications. Committed to providing the best in design, form and function, Equinox® Louvered Roof is recognized as the leading supplier of elite patio systems. Specified by discerning consumers and designers who demand solutions of superior quality, Equinox® Roof systems are the patio cover of choice for exclusive projects around the world.

To learn more, visit www.equinoxroof.com.

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OmniMax has grown both organically and through a number of strategic acquisitions to become one of the largest suppliers of specialty coated aluminum coil, building materials and RV sidewalls in the US and Western Europe.

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